

Wilcox Ranch



Description: Wilcox Ranch is a remote private ranch with a unique combination of characteristics including extensive forests, a riparian area along Range Creek, and undisturbed Fremont Indian artifacts that have been closely guarded by the landowner.

Location: Wilcox Ranch is located in the Range Creek area of the Book Cliffs in Carbon and Emery Counties.

Acreage: 4,208.35 acres

Grant funding: \$500,000

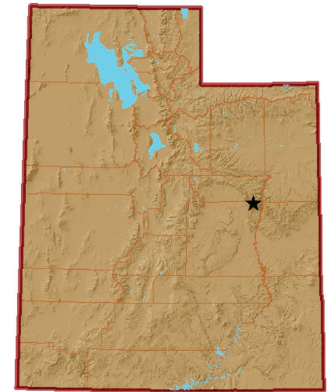
Total Project Cost: \$2,508,300

Grant Awarded: December 2001

Partners: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Bureau of Land Management, The Trust for Public Land, US Forest Legacy Program Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands

Local Support: Carbon County, East Carbon, Sunnyside, Carbon County, Emery County, Representative Brad King, Senator Mike Dmitrich

Conservation Easement Held by: Utah Department of Agriculture and Food



Public Benefits

Wildlife Habitat: Higher elevations are classified by DWR as high priority, year-long elk range and high priority deer winter range. Bighorn sheep, cougar, bear, hawks, eagles, and wild turkey benefit from the ranch's vegetation coverage. The riparian area in the canyon bottoms is considered by DWR as critical habitat for the region. The property could also support upland game including Rio Grande turkeys, cottontail rabbits, snowshoe hare, chukars, blue grouse, ruffed grouse and sage grouse.

Watershed Protection: The Range Creek fish population ranks among the region's best, and is a candidate for the State's Blue Ribbon Fisheries Initiative.

Cultural and Recreational: Wilcox Ranch contains undisturbed pottery, arrowheads, rock homes, granaries, petroglyphs and pictographs from ancient Fremont Indians. Continued management will assure protection of these vulnerable resources. The land has been used in the past for limited hunting and fishing.

Agricultural Land: A 120 acre parcel is irrigated for agricultural use. In 2001, 200 head of cattle were grazing the property. Livestock use in the area is restricted to cattle and trailing of cattle to the City of Green River.